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TV Garden Program
 On Fuchsias Sunday

There may be a fuchsia in your future, as Joe Littlefield will show viewers on "Garden Chats" when he discusses the planting and raising of this handsome, drooping flower, Sunday, August 14, 12:30 p.m., KTLA, Channel 5.

Joe will also give viewers tips on the pruning and care of Geraniums, in addition to timely gardening suggestions.

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Color Trends Do About-Face in Housing, Clothing, Says Expert

"The charcoal tones of dark grays, browns and blues that were standards for house paint trim colors a few years ago have invaded the men's and women's clothing field while a complete reversal in color preference is in effect for painting the home," according to Joseph C. Thompson, general paint manager of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., a pioneer in color research through its widely accepted painting principles of Color Dynamics.

"While clothing has swung almost entirely to the grayed conservative look, paint manufacturers have been besieged with demands for both exterior and interior house paints that range in color from shell pink and lime green tints to a veritable rainbow of brilliant hues," he said.

Most major paint companies have found it necessary to make tremendous expansions in their color selections in order to keep up with current tastes in home decoration, Thompson related.

"For example," he said, "from a handful of basic standard colors, we have added 36 supplementary colors to our exterior house paint line and 300 colors to our full range of interior house paints. We are also adding 107 additional colors to our polyvinyl acetate exterior rubberized masonry paint."

Where color trends in clothing will go from here, Thompson would not predict. In housing and automobiles, however, he believes a wide range of vivid colors will continue to predominate. "Americans have become increasingly color conscious of their surroundings during the past few years," he said.

"The trend appears to be leading to the use of more and varied cheerful colors rather than to a few predominant hues," he concluded.

Pyracantha Available In 15 Forms

A best seller in berried shrubs the pyracantha or firethorn is available in more than 15 forms, all of which will provide your garden and yard with great branches of berries in various shades.

The hardiest species in this family are the coccinea which grow to 10 feet as a shrub and 20 feet as a wall climber. In March and April clusters of white flowers appear followed by red berries in November. The islandi, which bears bright orange berries is the best known variety of pyracantha.

Pyracantha crenato-serrata or yunnanensis has a spreading habit of growth reaching 10 feet and bears bright red berries that make excellent outdoor and indoor decorations at Christmas time. Variations are graber and Santa Cruz; graber can be trained to espalier. Santa Cruz is a very dense, low growing form that can be kept easily at one and a half feet.

A seedling sport which reaches 15 feet in height and 2 feet in width is pyracantha koldzumii striding. Horticultural varieties of this sport are named Rosedale, Rubra, Victory, San Jose, Radiance and Walderi.

Easy growing pyracantha will tolerate neglect. Plant them in full sun and prune annually to get great bunches of berries, recommends the California Association of Nurserymen. Berries are produced on second-year wood so branches that have borne berries should be cut back to the laterals.

In the garden and yard the pyracantha serves equally well espaliered against a wall or growing in a container and supported by a trellis. The spreading varieties make good hill or ground covers and the bushy forms can be used to create hedges.

GARDENER'S CHECKLIST

1. Plant now for Christmas bloom—Winter flowering sweet peas.
2. Plant these seeds now in the vegetable garden and let the fall rains help water: beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, parsley, parsnips, radish, rutabaga, spinach, turnip.
3. Quit watering lilacs and peonies now. This allows them to go dormant early and promotes better and more plentiful flowers next spring.
4. Dig up gladioli bulbs, allow them to dry for one week in shallow trays or boxes. Dust the stored bulbs with DDT or lindane to kill the thrips.

Cover Those Walls With Vines, Forget the Paint

Unightly fences and walls your problem? If they are don't resort to a brush and can of paint! There is a much more natural and eye-pleasing way of covering fences and walls, reminds the California Association of Nurserymen, for many varieties of shrubs and vines perform well as fence and wall covers, adding beauty of foliage and flowers to the garden scene.

Take, for instance, the ivy family. They're naturals for this job. Especially good are the Hedera canariensis or Algerian ivy and the Hedera helix or English ivy. Their whitish and yellowish variegated forms contrast nicely with the regular dark leafed parents. Algerian will take more sun than the many English varieties. Trim ivy annually to keep the vines from becoming bushy.

Plant for Fragrance

What could be more pleasant than a vine with fragrance? Honeysuckle (Lonicera) varieties, and there are many of them, fill the bill here. The Lonicera hilderbrandiana or giant Burmese honeysuckle; although not hardy, is a fast growing variety with dark glossy green foliage and beautiful creamy-white flowers that change to yellow and then dull orange before dropping. The Lonicera japonica chinensis or purple Japanese honeysuckle

Some good shrub selections for the role of fence and wall cover are the Lantana varieties—camara and sellowiana. If properly supported and encouraged camara will grow to 20 feet against a wall or fence with small flowers of yellow or orange, changing to red or scarlet. Sellowiana is a trailing lantana, rapid growing with fragrant lavender-pink flowers. Lantanas need full sun for they mellow in shade. Avoid over-watering and skip fertilizing for best results. Cut back and thin out the shrubs in early spring to keep them from getting woody.

Coprosma, baueri, a mirror plant variety, makes another good wall shrub. The baueri grows rapidly to 10 feet with shiny, glossy leaves, dark to light green, and rather inconspicuous greenish or white flowers. Orange or yellow berries also appear on the shrub. Prune twice a year to keep the shrub in good shape thinning and cutting back in winter and pinching back new growth in spring.

Creepers Useful

The common winter creeper (Euonymus fortunei) redicans will do an excellent job of covering a wall in an even flat manner or in tracery or pattern. Evergreen, it will train sun or shade. Easy to train is the bigleaf winter creeper (Euonymus fortunei vegetus). Its new growth in April and May is an interesting chartreuse and orange berries appear in little "hat boxes" in August and September. Full grown foliage is a glossy medium green. Bigleaf grows slowly in the first two years and is easily trained by tipping and thinning. After two years it will add four feet a year if not restrained.

Good Cover Shrub

Against a wall in a fan shape the forsythia or golden bells makes a fine cover shrub. It is deciduous and blooms early in the spring—February or March—and is tolerant of most soils and easy to grow. Weeping forsythia (Forsythia suspensa) features a vine-like branches and golden-yellow bells. Greenstem (viridissima) is the only forsythia with fall color—purplish-red foliage.

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